

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the final Office action mailed February 27, 2006. Reexamination and reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully solicited.

Claims 1-32 are pending in this application, with Claims 1, 7, 14, 21, 25, and 29 being the independent claims. Claims 1, 7, 8, 14, 17, 21, and 29 have been amended, Claim 31 was previously canceled, and Claim 32 has been canceled herein. No new matter is believed to have been added by way of this amendment and response.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for allowing Claims 25-28 and for finding allowable subject matter in Claim 32. Applicants would also like to thank Examiner Hanan for the courtesies extended during a telephone interview held on April 4, 2006, with Cindy Kwacala. During the telephone interview, it was agreed that the amendments included herewith overcome the 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 rejections presented in the Office action of February 27, 2006.

I. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC §§ 102 and 103

Claims 1-3, 5-10, 21, 29, and 30 were rejected under USC 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,607,353 ("Masutani"), and Claims 4, 9, 11-20, and 22-24 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Masutani and variously over Admitted Prior Art FIGs. 1 and 2.

As noted above, independent claims 1, 7, 21, and 29 have been amended to recite features that the Examiner agreed patentably distinguish these claims over the art of record, thereby mooting each of the above-noted rejections. Applicants therefore request reconsideration and withdrawal of the §§ 102 and 103 rejections.

III. CONCLUSION

In view of Applicant's amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that Examiner's rejections under 35 USC §§ 102 and 103, have been overcome. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the application, as amended, is now in condition for

Appl. No. 10/829,114

Amdt. Dated April 6, 2006

Reply to Office Action of February 27, 2006

allowance, and such allowance is therefore earnestly requested. Should the Examiner have any questions or wish to further discuss this application, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the Applicants' attorneys at the number below.

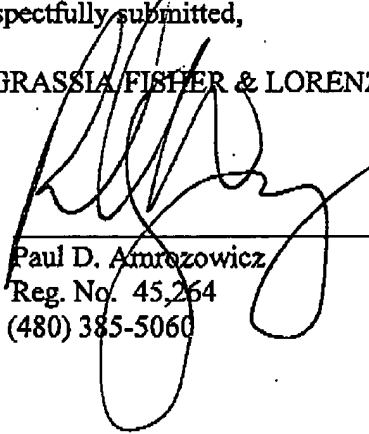
If for some reason Applicants have not requested a sufficient extension and/or have not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent abandonment on this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

INGRASSIA FISHER & LORENZ

Dated: April 6, 2006

By:


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